

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Arrangement in a counter rotating propulsion system (~~CRP~~), ~~which propulsion system comprises~~ comprising an aft propeller installed on a ~~rotatable~~ thruster rotatable about a vertical axis, and a forward propeller installed on a shaft or on a thruster, ~~which propellers are arranged on the essentially same axial line~~, whereby the aft propeller and the forward propeller have opposite directions of ~~rotating~~ rotation and the aft and forward propellers are arranged ~~against~~ opposing each other, each of the propellers having a hub with a cap, the hub and cap associated with the forward and aft propellers are arranged opposing each other, wherein at least two equally distributed flow plates blades are arranged on the cap of the forward propeller and that the flow plates blades are radially projecting from the cap.

2. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the forward ~~hubcap~~ cap is well-streamlined.

3. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the forward ~~hubcap have diameter~~ cap has a diameter to length ratio not higher than 2.

4. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the flow blades ~~plates~~ are straight and similar to each other.

5. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the number of the flow blades ~~plates~~ is independent of the number of the blades of the forward propeller and the position of the flow plates is independent of the position of the blades of the forward propeller.

6. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the diameter of ~~the tip edges of the plates~~ flow blades is in the range of ~~0.4-2~~ 0.4-2 times the maximum hub diameter.

7. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the flow blades ~~plates~~ are integrated to the cap.

8. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the ~~plates~~ flow blades are fixed to the cap by welding or by bolts.

9. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the aft propeller is turnable and the aft propeller is used to propel and to steer ~~the a~~ vessel.

10. (Currently Amended) Arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the aft propeller ~~being after the forward propeller~~ has a streamlined cap.

11. (Currently Amended) Arrangement in a counter rotating propulsion

system (GRP), comprising an aft propeller installed on a rotatable thruster rotatable about a vertical axis, and a forward propeller installed on a shaft or on a thruster, whereby the aft propeller and forward propeller are arranged on the essentially same axial line, the aft propeller and the forward propeller have opposite directions of rotating rotation and the aft and forward propellers are arranged against opposing each other, wherein each of the propellers have a hub with a cap, whereby the hub and cap associated with the forward and aft propellers are arranged opposing each other, at least two equally distributed flow plates blades are arranged on the cap of the forward propeller and the flow plates blades are radially projecting from the cap.

12. (New) An arrangement comprising:

a thruster rotatable about a vertical axis comprising an aft propeller, a first hub and a first cap; and
a forward propeller, and a second hub and a second cap associated with the forward propeller, the second cap having a diameter, the second cap comprising a plurality of equally spaced flow blades projecting from the second cap in a radial direction with no inclination and without extending beyond the diameter of the second cap;

wherein the aft propeller and the forward propeller have opposite directions of rotation;

wherein the first cap and the second cap are arranged opposing each other and are spaced apart; thereby defining a separation zone; and

wherein the flow blades are constructed and arranged to eliminate cavitation in the separation zone when the aft propeller is not co-axial with the forward propeller.

13. (New) The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the second cap has a diameter to length ratio of less than 2.

14. (New) The arrangement of claim 12, wherein the position of the flow blades is independent of the position of the blades of the forward propeller.